CHAPTER V—DEPARTMENTS OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES.

(i) Food Supplies.

460. The work relating to the Civil Supplies Department was transferred from the Director of Agriculture to the Director of Food Supplies in February 1953. The Director of Food Supplies was also the Commissioner for Distress Relief.

461. Consequent on derationing in the City of Mysore, the administrative control of the entire rationing organisation of Mysore City including godowns that was under the control of the Rationing Officer, Mysore, was transferred to the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore, the Food Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner being designated as ex-officio Rationing Officer for the City, the Chief Rationing Officer (Municipal Commissioner) Mysore being divested of all the rationing work. The post of Accounts Assistant to Deputy Commissioner, Mysore was retrenched from 9th October 1952 and this work was entrusted to the Food Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner in addition to his own duties.

462. In pursuance of the policy of gradual relaxation of controls over foodgrains in the State and with the concurrence of the Government of India, the Paddy Acquisition (Harvest) Order, 1952 was promulgated in November 1952.

463. A quantity of 12,97,424 pallas of paddy was procured during the current harvest.

464. The basic plan for 1952 which came into effect on 1st January 1952 was continued till the end of December 1952 and the Plan for 1953 was operative for 3 months from January to end of March 1953. As against the estimated deficit of 3 lakhs tons of foodgrains during the year, the State was promised 1,50,000 tons consisting of 15,000 tons of rice, 55,000 tons of wheat and 80,000 tons of

millets. But the actual allotments to the State for the period up to the end of March 1953 were as follows :—

	Tons.
Rice	13,000
Wheat and wheat products ...	50,200
Millets	77,570

465. At the Conference of Food Ministers held at Delhi in January 1953, the Government of India announced their policy of cutting down imports from foreign countries and utilising indigenous resources to the maximum extent possible and in pursuance of this, States like Madhya Bharath, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Hyderabad declared surpluses of foodgrains for export purposes, which were accordingly allotted to deficit States and Mysore also was the recipient of allotments from these areas.

466. Although in the case of indigenous millets the supply price was a little higher than imported stocks, rice from Orissa was obtained at cheaper rates.

467. As usual, representatives of the Department of Food Supplies were sent out for procurement of foodgrains from Madhya Bharath, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Hyderabad with a view to expedite despatches from these areas.

468. A total quantity of 1,34,053 tons of foodgrains was received during the year as against 1,15,539 tons of foodgrains in the previous year.

469. Unlike in the previous two years neither the earlier rains nor the later ones were timely or adequate during the year. There was practically little or no rainfall in most parts of the State during the cultivating season. At the beginning of October, there were profuse showers in some parts which were not very helpful and were even harmful to the standing paddy crops in select areas. These adverse effects were reflected in the preliminary estimates of Khariff crops prepared towards the end of October 1952 which showed a sharp decrease in the outturn of crops during the year.

470. Statutory rationing was continued in the four Cities, *viz.*, Bangalore including Civil Station, Mysore, Kolar Gold Fields and Davanagere from the beginning of

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

the year till 11th August 1952 when statutory rationing was called off in Mysore City and continued in the remaining three Cities only during the remaining part of the year. As in previous years, the distribution was continued to be made through Government depots, co-operative societies, etc.

471. The overall off-takes including the off-takes of individual foodgrains more particularly of rice showad a steep fall during the year as compared to the same during the previous year due to the relaxations in restrictions as well as the modification of the system of procurement effected during the year. The overall stock position of foodgrains at the end of the year showed an improvement over the position during the corresponding period of the previous year, the improvement being contributed by the more rapid procurement both from local resources and from outside the State.

472. The inter-district movement of foodgrains was primarily confined to rice from the districts of Shimoga, Mysore, Mandya, Hassan and Chikmagalur to the deficit areas, *viz.*, Bangalore City, Mysore City, Kolar Gold Fields and Kolar, Bangalore, Tumkur and Chitaldrug districts Ragi was also moved from some districts in small quantities. The movement was arranged as usual under monthly quotas fixed at the beginning of each month with reference to availabilities.

473. The scheme of utilisation of the services of the Rice Millowners in the procurement of paddy and its hulling and despatch of rice to the deficit areas under the same terms of agreement as in previous year was continued during the year. The statutory control over Rice Mills introduced by Government in August 1951 under the title "Mysore Rice Mills Control Order 1951" was also continued throughout the year.

474. With a view to make bread available at a reasonable price to consumers, the maximum price of bread was fixed in Bangalore from time to time as detailed below :—

from 1st April 1952 to 31st July 1952 Re. 0 7 6 per lb.
from 1st August 1952 to 31st March 1953 Re. 0 7 0 ,,

475. One hundred and eighty-three bakeries were working at the end of the year.

476. The Mysore Food (Austerity Measures in Service of Meals) Order 1951 continued to be in force during the

year. In accordance with instructions of the Government of India, Clause 5 of the above order was amended and the existing limitations on the number of guests permitted at entertainments were relaxed. According to this, the number of guests who may be permitted at ordinary entertainments excluding the host was raised from 24 to 50 and on occasions of marriages or funerals from 50 to 100, and these limits were made applicable only to entertainments wherein meals prepared out of cereals were served.

477. The production of sugar by the Mandya Sugar Factory was sufficient to meet the demands of the State. The policy of giving Sugar Factories release orders in respect of free market sugar was continued during the period and appreciable quantities of this sugar found their way into the State. The Government of India decided to continue the issue of double rations of sugar in all areas for two months more and since the sugar position was steadily improving, it was decided finally to deration sugar in all areas with effect from May 1952 and permit all categories of consumers to draw sugar without limit at controlled rates in view of the increased production during the year and in order to stimulate internal consumption of sugar. The Government of India decided that there should be an appreciable reduction in the statutory minimum price of sugarcane during 1952-53 season and accordingly fixed the same at Rs. 1-5-0 and Rs. 1-3-0 (82 2/7 lbs.) for Gate and Rail Centres respectively.

478. The system of obtaining supplies of fuel by the Department direct from the suppliers through the retail dealers to the public of Bangalore was continued during the year. This arrangement has worked well and the fuel position very much improved during the year with a large number of private traders taking to this business. With the free flow of fuel through private channels, it was considered unnecessary to continue the Government Fuel Sub-Reserve and Reserve Depots. Due to this improved position, the Government Fuel Sub-Reserve Depots in Bangalore City were closed from 1st August 1952. Further, the Government Fuel Reserve Depot in Civil Station was also closed from 1st December 1952. The price of all varieties of fuel was cheapened by one quarter maund per rupee in January 1953.

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

479. In view of the State not being self-sufficient in respect of firewood, a Committee was constituted in September 1952 to formulate a co-ordinated long-term plan to meet fuel requirements of the State.

480. Necessary assistance was continued to Kolar Gold Fields Mining Board for obtaining their requirements of Poles and Fuel during the year. Price control of fuel was continued during the year in Mysore City also.

481. In view of the revision of Food Policy, the problems of the Food Department were greatly simplified and the food councils were abolished.

Food prosecutions.

482. Of 3,148 cases for disposal during the year, 1,672 cases ended in conviction, 786 cases were acquitted or discharged and 64 cases withdrawn. Foodgrains valued at Rs. 31,373-4-4 involved in the above cases were confiscated to Government.

483. A grant of Rs. 20,000 under "Reward and Secret Services" was sanctioned in May 1952 for granting cash rewards to the Officers and informants in deserving cases of detection and successful prosecution of offences against food rules. An additional sum of Rs. 1,400 was also sanctioned as in the previous year, for granting rewards for detection and elimination of bogus ration cards in the statutorily rationed areas.

(ii) Department of Food Production.

484. The food deficit of the State was estimated to be 2,41,544 tons when the Grow More Food Schemes were launched in the State during October 1949. The additional food production realised from these schemes during 1950-51 and 1951-52 69,828 tons and 67,835 tons, respectively. Practically the same schemes were continued during the year also.

485. The names of the several schemes, and the financial assistance received from the Government of India

during the year in respect of each of them are detailed below :—

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Amount sanctioned by the Govt. of India	
		Grant	Loan
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Multiplication and Distribution of improved varieties of seeds	1,00,906	...
2	Manufacture and Distribution of urban compost ...	1,06,075	...
3	Protective Measures against Pests and Diseases ..	20,000	...
4	Establishment of the Additional Dy. Director, G. M. F. Scheme	32,760	...
5	Preparation and distribution of Manure mixtures ...	1,51,814	...
6	Subsidy for the construction of Irrigation wells ...	1,87,500	...
7	Construction of big tanks ...	5,10,250	10,20,000
8	Improvement of River Tank and Feeder Channels ...	7,50,000	...
9	Restoration of Tanks ...	7,50,000	15,00,000
10	Restoration of Tanks by desilting ...	2,50,000	5,00,000
11	Land Improvement Schemes ...	2,50,000	5,00,000
12	Extension of Electric Power Supply for Irrigation ...	...	50,00,000
13	Loan for purchase of pumpsets.	...	5,00,000
	Total ...	31,09,955	90,20,000

486. The schemes implemented under the Grow More Food Campaign during the year have been divided into the following three categories :—

1. Works Schemes.
2. Supply Schemes.
3. Miscellaneous Schemes.

1. Works Schemes.

487. These include mostly irrigation works such as sinking of irrigation wells, construction of major irrigation works, restoration of major and minor tanks, construction and improvement of river, tank and feeder channels, lift irrigation in river valleys, land improvement works including land reclamation, construction of pick-up anes, etc.

2. SUPPLY AND SERVICE SCHEMES.

488. The Supply and Service Schemes consist of the following :—

(*a*) Distribution of seeds and manures.
(*b*) Preparation of urban compost.
(*c*) Supply of agricultural implements.
(*d*) Tractor and bulldozer services.
(*e*) Supply of tractors, Diesel oil and Electrical pumpsets and Persian wheels under Hire Purchase System.
(*f*) Extension of power supply to irrigation pumpsets, and
(*g*) Issue of manure loans to the agriculturists.

3. SERVICE AND MISCELLANEOUS SCHEMES.

These consist of the following :—

(*a*) Protection of Food crops against pests and diseases.
(*b*) Double Cropping programme.
(*c*) Grant of Lands for cultivation.
(*d*) Co-operative Farming.
(*e*) Grant of Takkavi and Land Improvement loans to agriculturists.
(*f*) Cultivation of subsidiary food crops, and
(*g*) Concessions to multi-purpose co-operative societies which undertook distribution of seeds, manures and implements.

ACTIVITIES OF THE SEVERAL DEPARTMENTS AND PRIVATE ORGANISATIONS ASSISTING THE GROW MORE FOOD CAMPAIGN.

489. With a view to help the campaign, the Forest Department released for cultivation an extent of 2,476 acres as well as encouraged cultivation of ragi by the jungle tribes in plantation area of about 200 acres. The Department of Animal Husbandry supplied 27 breeding bulls and buffaloes to the ryots and distributed 3,832 poultry, 9,362 hatching eggs, 81,012 table eggs, 1,274 table poultry and 149 pure-bred cockerels. Cultivation of food crops was undertaken by the Department at the several departmental

farms in extensive areas and 5,787 acres of Amrit Mahal Kaval lands were also released for temporary cultivation. With a view to help the agriculturists in maintaining their health conditions, the department of Public Health sanctioned 47 modified health units in Malnad parts. Government Institutions like the Beggars' Colony, the Central Jail at Bangalore, Mysore Iron and Steel Works, Bhadravathi, E. M. E. Centre at Jalahalli also undertook cultivation of foodgrains over an area of about 195 acres and thus contributed to the campaign by producing 1,221 pallas of food grains.

Crop Competitions.

490. In view of the good response the department had in respect of paddy crops competition during the year, crop competitions were organised to facilitate the participants to compete with the All India Crop Competitors. The competition was extended to paddy, wheat, potato, gram, jowar and bajra.

491. Planning of crop surveys for 1952-53 monsoon season was undertaken on paddy, ragi, jowar, bajra and cotton on State-wide scale to estimate the average yield per acre and their total production.

492. Crop cutting experiments were also planned and conducted to assess the additional production of foodgrains obtained from such Grow More Food aids as subsidised irrigation wells, seeds and fertilisers, major and minor irrigation works, new lands granted for cultivation, and tractor ploughing.

493. Most of the schemes implemented in the State under the Grow More Food Campaign consist of irrigation works of a permanent nature which confer assured benefits for long periods. In places where fresh lands were brought under irrigation, the value of such lands has risen enormously.

494. The progress of the campaign was retarded to a considerable extent due to the scarcity of rains generally all over the State, particularly in Chitaldrug, Tumkur, Kolar and parts of Shimoga districts. Most of the taluks in these Districts were declared as Distress areas and relief works were undertaken.

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

(iii) Civil Supplies.

495. The Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948, the Cotton Textiles (Control of Movement) Order, 1948, the Cotton Textiles (Export Control) Order, 1949, the Mysore Cotton Cloth Dealers' Licensing Order, 1948 and the Mysore Cotton Yarn (Control of Distribution) Order, 1948, continued to be in force in the State.

496. The three agencies, *viz.*, Nominees, Wholesale cloth dealers and retail cloth dealers, instituted in the State for movement of cloth from mills to consumers continued to function with suitable margins of profit to each agency. Taluk Multi-purpose co-operative societies organised all over the State were licensed to deal in cloth in wholesale. Circle Multi-purpose co-operative societies and other co-operative institutions were liberally licensed as retail cloth dealers. There were 25 nominees, 480 wholesalers inclusive of 76 multi-purpose co-operative societies and more than 10,000 retailers were doing cloth business in the State during the year.

Procurement.

497. The mills were offering for controlled distribution two-thirds of their monthly packings of cloth bales till 1st April 1952. On account of substantial increase in the production of cloth in the country and the general slump in the market, the Government of India, introduced certain changes in the policy governing the distribution of cloth. Accordingly, the mills were permitted to retain 80 per cent of the monthly packings for sale to dealers of their own choice and to offer only the remaining twenty per cent for controlled distribution from 1st April 1952. This free-sale concession was enhanced to 85 per cent from 1st March 1953. All categories of cloth were under distribution and price control till the end of February 1952, and from 1st March 1952, superfine and fine categories of cloth were treated as "Exempted cloth", and there was no distribution control over these categories, since then.

498. As a result of the increased production of cloth and abundant stock of the same with the mills and the dealers, the Government of India decontrolled with effect from 1st October 1952, the undermentioned varieties of cloth. Coatings and twills were also subsequently decontrolled and the varieties that were still under control at

the close of the year were longcloths, shirtings and bed sheets :—

1 Dhoties and Sarees.
2 Mulls and Voiles.
3 Poplins and Crepes.
4 Drills.
5 Mazi cloth.
6 Dosuti.
7 Bed-ticking cloth and some other less important items.

499. The State Nominees procured against the monthly allotments the undermentioned quantities of cloth during the year were—

Local Mills	...	4,335 bales.
Outside Mills	...	4,103 bales.
Total	...	8,438 bales.

500. The reduction in the quantity procured as compared to that of the previous year (40,290 bales) was due to the permission granted to the mills to sell 80 per cent of their monthly packings to dealers of their own choice and the decontrol of most of the varieties.

501. A definite number of wholesale dealers had been attached to taluks on population basis for the easy distribution of cloth all over the rural and urban parts. As a result of the reduction in the number of cloth bales made available for controlled distribution, allotment of cloth bales to wholesale dealers was stopped and only wholesale co-operative societies all over the State were being allotted cloth bales for distribution in their areas. Distribution

502. The following were the number of licenses excluding the Primary Weavers' Co-operative Societies current during the year :— Yarn.

1	Wholesalers	...	43
2	Retailers	...	240

503. The total quantity of yarn received during the year was 10,369 bales as against 14,104 received during the previous year for controlled distribution. There were 1,200 powerlooms and 27,000 handlooms in the State. The allotment of yarn bales to the Mysore Provincial Cotton Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society, Ltd., Bangalore, was continued during the year for distribution to handloom weavers through the Weavers' Co-operative Societies.

FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

Cement.

504. The Mysore Cement Rationing and Licensing Order, 1948, continued to be in force during the year. The Government of India allotted 74,100 tons of cement to the State during the year, besides making separate allotments for works connected with the "Grow More Food Scheme", construction of Refugees Quarters and other important industrial concerns, etc. Out of 6,200 tons of cement allotted to the State, every month, about 4,000 tons of cement were being earmarked for the civilian use.

505. As the stock position of cement with the dealers in the State was satisfactory during the year, relaxation in the Cement Control Order was made by permitting the licensed cement dealers in Bangalore City and Civil Station Area including Bangalore North and South Taluks to sell cement without permits to the extent of 100 bags per consumer, per month, and the licensed dealers in the remaining parts of the State to sell up to 50 bags per consumer per month and it continued to be in force, during the year.

506. The price of cement was reduced from Rs. 74-8-0 to Rs. 71 per ton in full waggon loads f.o.r. any Railway Station.

507. There were 175 dealers licensed to deal in cement under the provisions of the Cement Rationing and Licensing Order, 1948, at the commencement of the year. Eighteen licenses were issued afresh during the year bringing the total number to 193. Of these, 16 licenses were cancelled, leaving 177 licenses at the close of the year.

508. The distribution of cement in the State has been decentralised empowering the Deputy Commissioners, the Revenue Sub-Division Officers and the Amildars to issue permits for cement up to 100 bags, 50 bags and 10 bags respectively. The Presidents of the Taluk Multipurpose Co-operative Societies have also been authorised to issue permits for cement up to 5 bags. All applications for cement exceeding 100 bags and also all applications for cement pertaining to Bangalore North and South Taluks were being dealt with by the Controller of Civil Supplies. The supply position of cement in the State was satisfactory during the year.

Drugs.

509. The Mysore Drug Control Act, 1950, dated the 1st April 1950 continued to be in force. Certain very important and new drugs were not only brought under the

purview of the Act, but certain restrictions were also prescribed for their sale. The continuance of the Act has very much stabilised the prices of all drugs.

510. The Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Act, 1948, remained in force during the year.

511. The Supply and Prices of Goods Act, 1950, which is analogous to the H.P.P. Act, 1945, also continued to be in force during the year.

512. Ninety-two cases for violation of Cotton Textiles Control Order, 1948, were detected and dealt with according to rules.

513. As a measure of economy in the expenditure of the Civil Supplies Department, the post of three Gazetted Officers, *viz.*, one Assistant Controller and two Enforcement Officers were retrenched. The post of the remaining Assistant Controller of Civil Supplies was also retrenched from 5th February 1953 when the Control of Civil Supplies Department was transferred to the Director of Food Supplies. One of the Assistant Directors of the Food Supplies Department was appointed as *ex-officio* Assistant Controller of Civil Supplies from 6th February 1953.